246. - Mountain Profile (Tasmania) - Mt Pelion East

The Forensic Record

1. Introduction:

Mt Pelion East is an iconic, pyramidal peak within the Overland Track region. Its sharp, angular profile is a result of the same massive dolerite injection and subsequent vertical displacement that defined the central highland landscape.

2. Title:

Mt Pelion East: The Pyramidal Sentinel

3. Number:

#3 (Tasmanian Sequence)

4. The Profile:

Elevation: 1,461 meters.
Cap Lithology: Jurassic Dolerite (Columnar, high-pressure cooling sheet).
Consensus Uplift Age: ~64 Million Years (Cenozoic Orogeny).

5. The Denudation Paradox:

If we apply the consensus-accepted uplift age of 64 million years:
At 60mm/ka: The mountain would have vanished in 24.35 million years.
At 20mm/ka: The mountain would have vanished in 73.05 million years.
At 10mm/ka: The mountain would have vanished in 146.1 million years.
At 7mm/ka: The mountain would have vanished in 208.71 million years.

6. The Forensic Reality:

Standing at 1,461m, Mt Pelion East should, by the laws of erosional denudation, have been reduced to a base level long before the end of the 64-million-year period proposed by current models. Its survival is a mathematical impossibility unless one accepts the "fresh" nature of the Tasmanian highlands—a landscape that has not been exposed for deep time, but was instead shunted into its present configuration recently.

7. Description:

The peak is comprised of a thick, vertical sequence of dolerite columns resting on top of tilted Permo-Triassic sediments. These columns are the signature of rapid cooling under extreme lithostatic pressure. The peak's current shape—its steep, jagged faces—is not an ancient feature but the direct result of rapid, post-catastrophic drainage and mass wasting that stripped away the softer surrounding rock, leaving only the hard, injected core.

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